

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4217Z

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1748

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1756

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, BR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC: NEW BRAZILIAN AMBASSADORS TO ARGENTINA
AND BOLIVIA

1. CLAUDIO GARCIA DE SOUZA, NOW BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO BOLIVIA, HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA, ONE OF THE TOP POSTS OF BRAZILIAN FOREIGN SERVICE. BORN IN RIO DE JANEIRO, JUNE 1, 1927, HE GRADUATED IN JURIDICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BRAZIL AND ENTERED THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN 1950. AMBASSADOR GARCIA DE SOUZA'S FOREIGN POSTINGS WERE WASHINGTON TWICE, MONTEVIDEO, BONN, LISBON AND AS AMBASSADOR TO LA PAZ PRIOR TO HIS SELECTION FOR BUENOS AIRES. IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HE SERVED IN THE MID-60'S AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF CABINET TO FOREIGN MINISTER JURACY MAGALHAWES AND SECRETARY GENERAL FOR WESTERN EUROPE AND AFRICA. DURING HIS ASSIGNMENT IN LA PAZ, SOUZA WAS CREDITED WITH CARRYING OUT THE PREPARATORY TASKS FOR THE BOLIVIA-BRAZIL GAS PURCHASE AGREEMENT.

2. GARCIA DE SOUZA HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS BEING BASICALLY FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES AND FEELS THAT BRAZILIAN SECURITY DEPENDS ON US LEADERSHIP OF THE WESTERN WORLD. HIS PERSONAL POLITICAL FEELINGS ARE IN THE BRAZILIAN CONTEXT, CONSERVATIVE. HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL AND A HARD-WORKING DIPLOMATIC ACTIVIST, AMBASSADOR GARCIA DE SOUZA SEEMS TO HAVE FEW OUTSIDE INTERESTS AND IS NOT WIDELY KNOWN OUTSIDE ITAMARATY CIRCLES. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH
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FLUENTLY AS DOES HIS WIFE LILLIAN. THE GARCIA DE SOUZA'S

HAVE THREE CHILDREN.

3. SOUZA WILL BE REPLACED IN LA PAZ BY SIZINIO PONTES NOGUEIRA, AGE 56, A NATIE OF THE STATE OF MINAS GERAIS. HE BEGAN HIS FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN NEW YORK IN 1953 AND HAS SERVED IN THE HAGUE, WASHINGTON, VIENNA, LIMA AND MOSCOW. AMBASSADOR PONTES NEGUEIRA WAS CHIEF OF THE RIVER PLACE AND CHILE DIVISION IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BEFORE HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT AS MINISTER-COUNSELOR IN MOSCOW. MARRIED TO THELMA PONTES NOGUEIRA, HE HAS THREE CHILDREN.
CRIMMINS

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